

MEETING SUMMARY
PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, June 15, 2000

The thirty-seventh meeting of the Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) was held on June 15, 2000, at the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, 1116 9th Street, Conference Room, Lower Level, Sacramento, California.

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT (Based on Sign-In Sheets):

Paul E Helliker, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)
Charles Goodman and Barbara Todd, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
Jennifer Ryder Fox, AgraQuest
Mel Androus, California Commodity Committee
Robert Ehn and Kati Bueler, Western Crop Protection Association (WCPA)
Ronald Hampton, Western Region IR-4
Kevin Olsen, Association of Natural BioControl Producers
Steve Balling, California League of Food Processors/Del Monte
Stacy Carlsen, California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association
Frank Zalom, University of California, Statewide IPM Program
Maxwell Norton, UC Cooperative Extension

INTERESTED PARTIES PRESENT (Based on Sign-In Sheets):

Artie Lawyer, Technology Sciences Group
Rick Melnicoe, UC Pesticide Impact Assessment Program
Jason Chavez and Gary Van Sickle, CA Tree Fruit Agreement
JP Cativiela, CA Rice Commission
Dana Dickey, Rice Research Board
Gary Pitzer, Inside Cal/EPA

DPR Staff present:

Chuck Andrews
Fred Bundock
David Duncan
Nan Gorder
Paul Gosselin
Steven Monk
Lisa Ross
Mac Takeda
Larry Wilhoit
Muffet Wilkerson

AGENDA ITEMS

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AND AMENDMENT TO MEETING SUMMARY.

Paul Helliker opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda. Rick Melnicoe requested an opportunity to address the committee and was added to the agenda. There were no corrections to the previous meeting summary.

2. MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS.

Paul Helliker reviewed a matrix that displayed a proposed restructuring of the committee as discussed at the last meeting. The matrix allotted memberships according to broad categories of representation and adjusted membership terms to balance a three-year rotation. Overall, the proposal would result in increasing the at-large membership of the committee from 22 to 24 members, a total of 30 members all together. The committee debated the relative merits of the proposal and ventured to suggest names for several of the vacancies. There were several advocates for expanding or limiting one category in favor of another. Paul indicated his willingness to make incremental changes to the membership, if necessary, assuring the committee that further adjustments could be made in the future. However, he expressed a will to begin the process of expanding the committee in time for the next meeting even if additional adjustments will need to be made later.

3. MID-YEAR UPDATE ON THE 2000 RULEMAKING CALENDAR.

Fred Bundock of DPR's Office of Policy Coordination and Continuous Improvement presented an update on the status of current DPR rulemaking packages and those proposals from the 2000 rulemaking calendar still anticipated to move forward this year. Fred provided some details about a few major packages. He provided insight into the new comment period for the methyl bromide field fumigation package. He also indicated that the package would be hopefully adopted in August. Fred stated that a work group was now working on developing drift regulations. He was asked whether this would incorporate any recommendations from the sulfur task force. Paul Gosselin, DPR's Acting Chief Deputy Director, stated that the sulfur task force work would be addressed separately, and that DPR would begin discussions on the drift regulations with external stakeholders sometime during the summer. Steven Monk and Fred explained the purpose of placeholder packages in the rulemaking calendar and gave an overview of a then-Governor Wilson executive order that significantly changed how agencies adopt regulations. Fred also explained how to access current rulemaking information on DPR's website.

4. UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE.

David Duncan, the Chief of DPR's Enforcement Branch, handed out and discussed a matrix of Enforcement Initiative action items. David provided highlights for each of eight major categories of activities. He also discussed the implementation of a state-county prioritization document and negotiated workplans to improve the coordination and effectiveness between the state and its county enforcement partners (county agricultural commissioners). David indicated that the revised process was being incrementally instituted between now and next June. After a brief break, Chuck Andrews, the Chief of DPR's Worker Health & Safety Branch, covered the status of Enforcement Initiative projects related to worker protection issues.

5. PRIORITY CRITERIA FOR PEST MANAGEMENT GRANTS AND ALLIANCE PROJECTS.

Nan Gorder, Senior Environmental Research Scientist with DPR's Pest Management, Analysis and Planning Program, discussed a promotional bulletin on the process for nominating an IPM Innovator. She also presented DPR's recent "Call for Proposals" for the grants program and explained the four categories of grants. She reviewed the priority criteria for making awards, which is listed in the brochure. Nan briefly covered the expected timeframes for this year's grant process. Bob Elliott will be

contacting the chairs of the various review subcommittees in August. The proposals for the grants will likely be distributed in October to the PMAC subcommittees for review with the alliance proposals following around the second week of November. Both grants and alliances will be presented with recommendations to the full PMAC at the December 7, 2000 meeting.

6. SUMMARY OF RECENT CONFERENCE ON THE PESTICIDE USE REPORTING SYSTEM.

Muffet Wilkerson, Agricultural Program Supervisor with DPR's Enforcement Branch, discussed a handout concerning the conference, which was held on May 8, 2000. She reported that over 200 attendees assured a standing room only crowd. The DPR event was co-sponsored by the U.S. EPA, the University of California, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Muffet stated that an extensive list of presenters and participants covered a surprising breadth of improvements to, and uses for, the pesticide use report (PUR) data. The consensus seemed to be that the PUR system is wonderful, but could still be better. The theme of the conference seemed to be the need to link the PUR data with other available data. Muffet shared an issue paper with the group that summarized the diverse recommendations. Muffet outlined three key steps that will be eventually taken by DPR: (1) compile an action plan; (2) complete a feasibility study report in the next 1-2 years to create a web-based PUR system; and (3) reconvene a PUR technical advisory committee with interested stakeholders to evaluate priorities.

7. OTHER BUSINESS, AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN.

Rick Melnicoe, Coordinator of the California Pesticide Impact Assessment Program (PIAP), was added at his request to the agenda. Rick recounted the history of the PIAP and briefed the committee on its very recent demise in favor of a new initiative at USDA to create super-regional pest management centers, likely only four nationally. Rick discussed the ramifications of this change and informed the committee that the University of California at Davis has submitted a proposal to become the site of the Western Region Pest Management Center.

Paul announced that the next meeting of the PMAC was scheduled for September 21, 2000. He also requested that the committee offer any suggestions they may have for agenda items. Frank Zalom suggested a presentation on the development of knowledge expectations, study guides, and exam questions for pest control advisor and applicator licensing programs.

Requests for copies of the PMAC meeting summary or reports distributed at the PMAC meeting should be directed to Steven Monk at (916) 323-2794, via facsimile at (916) 324-1452 or e-mail at smonk@cdpr.ca.gov or may be mailed to:

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